

Remarks

Claims 2 and 8 are canceled.

Claims 1, 3-7 and 17 are amended.

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-17 and 19 are now pending.

Claims 13-17 and 19 are withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-12 are now under consideration.

Amendments

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 2 and 8. Claims 2 and 8 are canceled.

Claim 1 is also amended to require that step a) involves the polymerization of two or more epoxy group containing monomers. At least one is of formula (II) and at least one is different from that of formula (II). Support is found in original claim 13 and the fifth full paragraph of page 12 of the disclosure. Support also exists in working Examples E1-E14 on pages 16-19 of the disclosure.

Claims 3-6 are amended to depend on claim 1.

Claim 7 is amended to be more clear. Claim 7 is also amended to add the monomer 2,3-epoxypropyl-4-ethyl-phenylether. This is compound (A) of page 15 of the specification.

Withdrawn claim 17 is amended to have proper antecedent basis.

No new matter is added.

Claim Rejections

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, for reasons of record.

Claim 7 is repaired by amendment.

Claims 1-5 and 8-12 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Fuso, WO 99/46261.

Claims 1-6 and 8-12 are rejected under 35 USC 102(a or b or e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Fuso, WO 02/48109.

Applicants submit that the present claim amendments address and obviate the prior art rejections.

In view of the present amendments, Applicants submit that the 35 USC 112, second paragraph, 35 USC 102(b), 35 USC 102(a or b or e) and 35 USC 103(a) rejections are addressed and are overcome.

The Examiner is kindly requested to reconsider and to withdraw the present rejections.

Applicants submit that the present claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be found allowable.

Abstract

A revised Abstract is submitted on a separate sheet. Support for added matter is found on page 2 of the disclosure, third paragraph. The inserted structure is from page 3. No new matter is added.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment: Replacement Abstract